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ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	AMAD-01	SJK-01	COME-00	DOEE-00	ANHR-01
	DS-00	EB-01	HA-09	H-01	INM-01	INRE-00	INR-01
	L-03	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OES-09	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-01
	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-01	SP-01	SS-01	TRSE-00	T-01
	USIE-00	/038W					

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P 172254Z SEP 91
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8591
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
CIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 14433

SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PINS, EPET, PGOV, ENRG, ASEC, PINR, CO
SUBJECT: ELN WON'T STOP HITTING ECOPETROL PIPELINES

REF: BOGOTA 12999

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1. (U) IN A COMMUNIQUE RELEASED IN CARACAS SEPTEMBER 11, COLOMBIA'S SIMON BOLIVAR GUERRILLA UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCED THE SUSPENSION OF SABOTAGE AGAINST THE COUNTRY'S ELECTRICITY AND PETROLEUM INFRASTRUCTURE. REGARDING OIL INDUSTRY FACILITIES, THE GUERRILLAS' PROMISE INCLUDES NATURAL GAS AND GASOLINE PIPELINES, BUT NOT REPEAT NOT THE COUNTRY'S CRUDE-OIL PIPELINES.

2. (U) FOLLOWING IS AN EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF THE SIGNIFICANT PARAGRAPH OF THE COMMUNIQUE:

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J. OLSON
DATE/CASE ID: 30 OCT 2002 200201334

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BEGIN TEXT:

IN ORDER TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT THAT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS, WE ANNOUNCE THE SUSPENSION OF ACTIONS AGAINST THE NATURAL GAS PIPELINES (GASODUCTOS) AND GASOLINE PIPELINES (POLIDUCTOS) OF THE COUNTRY, AT THE SAME TIME THAT WE REITERATE OUR DETERMINATION TO CEASE ATTACKS ON THE ELECTRICITY INFRASTRUCTURE THAT SERVES THE PUBLIC.

END TEXT.

3. (C) SEVERAL SHELL AND OCCIDENTAL CONTACTS ASSURED RSO AND POLOFF THAT THE GUERRILLAS HAD INTENTIONALLY OMITTED MENTION OF CRUDE OIL PIPELINES (OLEODUCTOS); THEY HAVE NO INTENTION OF ENDING SUCH ATTACKS.

4. (U) IN A SEPT. 10 PRESS CONFERENCE, NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY (ELN) SPOKESMAN FRANCISCO GALAN SAID
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THAT AS LONG AS THE GOVERNMENT'S OIL POLICY WAS NOT A TOPIC OF DISCUSSION AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE, THE ELN WOULD CONTINUE TO SABOTAGE ECOPETROL'S (THE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY) CANO LIMON-COVENAS CRUDE-OIL PIPELINE. (FYI: THE COUNTRY'S ENERGY POLICY IS ONE OF 10 AGENDA ITEMS IN CARACAS, BUT THE GOC HAS INSISTED ON A CEASE-FIRE ACCORD BEFORE TOUCHING THE REST OF THE AGENDA.)

5. (C) PRESIDENTIAL PEACE ADVISOR FRANCISCO DE FRANCISCO COMMENTED THAT FOR THE COLOMBIAN REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES (FARC), BLOWING UP CRUDE-OIL PIPELINES IS A "TACTIC" THAT THEY CAN DO WITHOUT. FOR THE ELN, SUCH ACTIONS ARE A "STRATEGY" TO BE USED TO COUNTER THE "UNJUST EXPLOITATION OF THE COUNTRY'S OIL RESERVES".

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